

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

Assembly Bill 2667 builds on efforts I've made together with the Legislature to better protect public health, improve state and local oversight of health care providers, and mitigate implementation challenges associated with the federal Medicare Prescription Drug program by maintaining access to lifesaving medications for seniors and persons with disabilities, in a manner that is consistent with the state's role, responsibilities and legal authority.

This bill provides state licensing and contracting agencies new tools to proactively review an entity's past actions prior to licensure in California. Ensuring state departments and the CalPERS Board consider a health plan's or health insurer's performance under the Medicare Part D program and in other states when conducting state licensing or contracting for state funded services strengthens consumer protections for all Californians, particularly for seniors and persons with disabilities.

For these reasons, I am signing Assembly Bill 2667.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger